GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3636
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2006
INDUSTRIAL GROWTH
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Industry Champions have asked the Government to remove bottlenecks that are preventing higher industrial growth and to take initiatives to spur up the manufacturing sector;

(b) If so, the details of the discussions held with the industry representatives and demands made by them for higher growth;

(c) Whether Industry has asked Government to deregulate energy, mining and food products; and

(d) If so, the steps taken or being taken by Government on the suggestions made by the industry representatives?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b): During the post-budget interactive session on 5th July 2006 with the Finance Minister, on measures to increase the industrial growth rate, representatives of ASSOCHAM, CII, FICCI and PHDCCI raised various issues relating to availability and cost of funds for small and medium enterprises, de-blocking of coal mines, raising public investment in infrastructure, deepening and broadening of the debt market and so on.

(c) The Industry Associations, inter-alia, recommended implementation of power sector reforms, de-regulation of mining and a supportive policy, including rationalization of taxes, for the food sector (including packaged/branded food).

(d) Consequent to this meeting, Government has identified various issues for further examination on a time-bound basis.